APPENDIX J—SUMMARY OF THE REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

EXPECTED DISTURBANCE FROM OIL AND GAS

The expected level of disturbance from the projected oil and gas wells was determined by using reasonable assumptions about a generic well site and access needs. Typically, 2 to 5 acres are cleared for construction of a well pad. However, depending on the topography of the well site and access area, this construction may require the creation of cut slopes and fill areas, which may disturb additional acres. Constructed roads typically have a width of approximately 30 feet. The length of the road is dependent on the well site location in relation to existing roads or highways. The average length of roads per well is 1/3 of a mile. Pipelines or flow lines will be constructed in conjunction with road construction to minimize additional disturbance. Pipeline rights-of-way are generally 30 feet wide, but widths could vary depending on ground conditions. Pipeline depth must be at least 48 inches. When possible, a common collection point will be established to minimize the number of production sites. The producing well sites will be reduced to a maximum long-term disturbance area of 1/4 acre (10,000 square feet) after the well is put into production.

The Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFDS) projects the number of wells anticipated to be drilled over the next 20 years. The following is a summary RFDS for Alabama and Mississippi.

ALABAMA

In Alabama, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) projects that 20 wells accessing non-U.S. Forest Service Federal Mineral Ownership (non-USFS FMO) would be drilled over the next 20 years. The BLM projects that the 20 wells would disturb approximately 105 acres. Table J-1 displays the RFDS and associated surface disturbance for Alabama, by mineral and surface ownership.

Table J-1. RFDS for Alabama

Mineral/Surface Owners	Number of Wells	Total Acres Disturbed
Federal/non-USFS	20	105
Federal/USFS	12	61
Non-Federal/non-Federal	3,988	20,750
Total	**4,020**	**20,916**

Oil and gas development on the Alabama surface tracts is not expected. This is a function of the high potential of the beach and highway tracts on the Fort Morgan Peninsula to have commercial development when combined with adjacent lands. These tracts can be developed by wells drilled in the nearby offshore waters. Also, the engineering problems presented by the river tracts with the associated increase in costs preclude the surface use of those tracts because the mineral estate can be more inexpensively developed from adjacent lands.

MISSISSIPPI

In Mississippi, the BLM projects that 10 wells accessing non-USFS FMO would be drilled over the next 20 years. The BLM projects that the 10 wells would disturb approximately 55 acres. Table J-2 displays the RFDS and associated surface disturbance for Mississippi, by mineral and surface ownership.

Table J-2. RFDS for Mississippi

Mineral/Surface Owners	Number of Wells	Total Acres Disturbed
Federal/non-USFS	10	55
Federal/USFS	350	1,925
Non-Federal/non-Federal	11,650	57,820
Total	**12,010**	**59,800**

Oil and gas development on the Mississippi surface tract is not expected. The engineering problems presented by this low-lying marshland tract and the associated increase in costs preclude the surface use of this tract for mineral development. The mineral estate may be more inexpensively developed from adjacent lands.